

HIS FIRST MESSAGE.

President McKinley Urges Congress to Pass a Tariff Bill.

Says the Depleted Treasury Is Sorely in Need of the Relief Which Revenue Legislation Will Afford—The Increasing Debt Alarming.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The president yesterday sent the following message to congress:

To the Congress of the United States: Regretting the necessity which has required me to call you together, I feel that your assembling in extraordinary session is indispensable because of the condition in which we find the revenues of the government. It is concluded that its current expenditures are greater than its receipts and that such a condition has existed for now more than three years.

With unlimited means at our command we are presenting the remarkable spectacle of increasing our public debt by borrowing money to meet the ordinary outlays incident upon even an economical and prudent administration of the government. An examination of the subject discloses this fact in every detail and leads inevitably to the conclusion that the condition of the revenue which allows it is unjustifiable and should be corrected.

We find by the reports of the secretary of the treasury that the revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899, from all sources were \$425,000,000, and expenditures for all sources were \$415,553,553.55, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$9,446,446.45. During that fiscal year \$40,570,407.98 were paid on the public debt, which had been reduced since March 1, 1898, \$250,078,890, and the annual interest charge decreased \$11,684,576.60.

The receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, amounted to \$431,716,561.94 and its expenditures to \$459,374,887.65, showing an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$2,341,674.29. Since that time the receipts of no fiscal year, and with but few exceptions of no month of any fiscal year, have exceeded the expenditures.

The receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1894, were \$372,802,498.29 and its expenditures \$442,005,735.87, leaving a deficit, the first since the resumption of specie payments, of \$69,203,237.58. Notwithstanding there was a decrease of \$16,700,128.78 in the ordinary expenses of the government, as compared with the previous fiscal year, its income was still not sufficient to provide for its daily necessities and the gold reserve in the treasury for the redemption of greenbacks was drawn on to meet them. But this did not suffice, and the government then resorted to loans to replenish the reserve. In February 1894, \$50,000,000 in bonds were issued, and in November following a second issue of \$50,000,000 was deemed necessary. The sum of \$117,171,705 was realized by the sale of these bonds, but the reserve was steadily decreased until on February 8, 1895, a third sale of \$62,315,400 in bonds, for \$55,116,244 was announced to congress. The receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, were \$380,373,503.30, and the expenditures \$423,178,425.48, showing a deficit of \$42,804,922.18.

A further loan of \$100,000,000 was negotiated by the government in February, 1895, the sale netting \$111,166,246, and swelling the aggregate of bonds issued within three years to \$232,315,400.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896, the revenues of the government from all sources amounted to \$429,473,438.78, while its expenditures were \$431,678,054.49, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$2,204,615.71. In other words, the total receipts for the three fiscal years ended June 30, 1895 were insufficient by \$17,811,725.45 to meet the total expenditures.

Nor has this condition since improved. From the first half of the present fiscal year, the receipts of the government, exclusive of postal revenues were \$157,507,903.78, and its expenditures exclusive of postal service \$195,210,000.22 or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$37,702,096.45. In January of this year the receipts exclusive of postal revenues were \$24,616,994.05 and the expenditures exclusive of postal services \$30,269,389.29, a deficit of \$5,652,395.24 for the month.

In February of this year the receipts exclusive of postal revenue were \$24,450,997.38, and expenditures exclusive of postal service \$28,980,064.68, a deficit of \$4,529,067.30; or a total deficiency of \$19,001,585.41 for the three years and eight months ending March 1, 1897. Not only are we without a surplus in the treasury, but with an increase in the public debt there has been a corresponding increase in the annual interest charge from \$22,863,883.30 in 1892, the lowest of any year since 1862, to \$34,397,507.50 in 1896, or an increase of \$11,533,624.20.

It may be urged that even if the revenues of the government had been sufficient to meet all its ordinary expenses during the past three years, the gold reserve would still have been insufficient to meet the demands on it and that bonds would necessarily have been issued for its replenishment. Be this as it may, it is clearly manifest, without denying or affirming the correctness of such a conclusion, that the debt would have been decreased in at least the amount of the deficiency, and business confidence immeasurably strengthened throughout the country.

Congress should promptly correct the existing conditions. Ample revenues must be supplied not only for the ordinary expenses of the government, but for the prompt payment of the principal and interest of the liquidation of the principal and interest of the public debt. In raising revenues duties should be so levied upon foreign products as to preserve the home market, so far as possible, to our own producers; to revive and increase manufactures; to relieve and encourage agriculture; to increase our domestic and foreign commerce; to aid and develop mining and building, and to render to labor in every field of useful occupation, the liberal wages and adequate rewards to which skill and industry are justly entitled. The necessity of the passage of a tariff law which shall provide ample revenue, need not be further urged. The imperative demand of the hour is the prompt enactment of such a measure, and to this object I earnestly recommend that congress shall make every endeavor. Before other business is transacted, let us first provide sufficient revenue to faithfully administer the government without the contracting of further debt, or the continued disturbance of our finances.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

Executive Mansion, March 16, 1897.

BAD ON RAIL TRAFFIC.

Lines in the Northwest Have Never Had Such Snows to Contend With.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 16.—Railroads have never before in their history in the northwest had as much to contend against because of drifting snow. It is stated that there are 200 cars of freight at initial points and elsewhere destined for towns off the main lines in the Dakotas and Minnesota that cannot reach their destination until branch lines are opened. It is stated that there is suffering in South Dakota by reason of the branch lines being closed. In that state over 600 miles of roads have been practically abandoned for fully two weeks.

IN SPECIAL SESSION.

The Fifty-Fifth Congress Assembles in Response to President McKinley's Proclamation.

THE senate began its work in extra session at noon on the 15th with 87 senators present. The business of the day was confined to the reading of the president's message, the seating of the new senator from Kansas, Mr. Harris, and the reference of the credentials of Mr. Corbett as senator from Oregon to the committee on elections. The house was called to order by Maj. McDowell, the clerk, who read the president's proclamation convening the congress, after which the roll was called. Immediately following Thomas B. Reed was elected speaker and Mr. Harner (Pa.), the oldest member in continuous service, administered the oath to him. The president's message was applauded as was Mr. Dingley, when he introduced the new tariff bill. The speaker then announced the membership of three committees—those on rules, ways and means and mileage—and the house at four o'clock adjourned to the 16th.

In the senate on the 16th 488 bills and eight joint resolutions were introduced. They embraced nearly every phase of public business. All the measures introduced were referred to the several committees with the exception of the bill pensioning the widow of Brig.-Gen. Stevenson at \$50 per month, which was passed. A debate occurred on the question of admitting Mr. Henderson, appointed by the governor of Florida as senator from that state. The case was finally referred to the committee on elections. The house concurred in a resolution for printing 20,000 copies of the Dingley tariff bill (6,000 for the senate and 14,000 for the house) was agreed to. The senate then adjourned to the 18th. The house was not in session.

A LARGE number of bills were introduced in the senate on the 18th. Senator Gallinger (N. H.) proposed an amendment to the constitution prohibiting legislation on behalf of any religious denomination. Senator Turpie (Ind.) gave notice of a speech on the election of senators by popular vote and introduced a resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution for the purpose. Senator Gear (Ia.) made a report from the committee on Pacific railroads favoring the bill for an adjustment of the Pacific railroad debt by a commission consisting of the secretaries of the treasury and the interior and the attorney-general. The senate then went into executive session for an hour and afterwards adjourned. In the house Mr. Henderson (Ia.) announced that the ways and means committee was not ready to report the tariff bill and an adjournment was taken, the house only being in session for 15 minutes, which was taken up in reading the journal.

In the senate on the 19th a resolution for the preparation of a comparative statement on revenue questions was agreed to. A resolution by Senator Pettigrew (S. D.) for a committee of five senators to look into Pacific railroad questions was referred. Several nominations were confirmed, amongst them being John Hay to be ambassador to Great Britain and Horace Porter to be ambassador to France. A special order was adopted in the house that night sessions should be held on the tariff bill and that the measure should be passed on March 21. The sundry civil bill was then taken up, 20 minutes being allowed for debate on either side, and finally passed. Next came the general deficiency bill and, after the 40 minutes allowed for debate had expired, that, too, was passed and the house adjourned. The sundry civil bill carried \$33,147,551 and the general deficiency bill \$8,166,214.

SHARKEY'S DEFI.

The Sailor Challenges Fitzsimmons and Claims to Be Champion.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 20.—Thomas J. Sharkey, the sailor, yesterday issued the following defi:

I claim the championship of the world. It is mine and I intend to claim and hold it until my colors are lowered. Fitzsimmons tells the world that he has retired from the ring, but whether he has or not I am the champion. I will fight him at any time or place. I have \$2,500 deposited with W. W. Naughton as a forfeit for a bet of \$10,000. Money talks and if Fitzsimmons, Maher, Goddard or any one else wants to cover it they can do so at any time and I will be greatly pleased. I whipped Corbett before 10,000 people and he had plenty of training and was in as good condition as he was when he met the Cornishman. As for Fitzsimmons, I got the decision over him and would have knocked him out had I not been fouled. Who has any better claim on the world's championship than I?

THOMAS J. SHARKEY, Champion of the World.

When James J. Corbett, the ex-champion, was asked about his future plans he said:

My plans are indefinite except in one matter. I want a return fight with Fitzsimmons. As soon as I consult Brady a formal challenge will be issued to Fitzsimmons. I will bet any sum of money with him that I can best him in another fight. He can make a whole lot of money if he consents to meet me again and whips me. I will make all sorts of concessions to get another contest with him. I will whip him if he consents to meet me a second time. I have not the least idea what he will say about the matter, but I will find out in a few days.

ST. NAZAIRE DISASTER.

Further Details of the Steamship's Wreck Places the Number of Dead at 78.

NEW YORK, March 19.—Out of the 82 persons comprising the passengers and crew of the steamer Ville de St. Nazaire, which sailed from this port on March 6 for Port au Prince, Hayti, only four are known to have survived the disaster which befell the craft a few hours later. These four passed through an experience such as, fortunately, has been the lot of few, seeing one after another of the 81 others who left the steamer in the large boat perish of exposure to the cold or die of hunger, some suffering during the seven days in which the drifted helplessly, without sail or compass, pangs that drove them to madness before death came to their relief.

Rivers Become Raging Torrents.

OMAHA, Neb., March 19.—Special telegrams from all points in the northwest indicate that the bonds of winter were simultaneously broken yesterday and the streams that have been bound in ice for months are suddenly turned to raging torrents. The worse reports come from South Dakota. Along the Missouri last night the settlers were fleeing in darkness from rapidly increasing floods and nothing definite can be told further.

Mexican Dead at 117.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 19.—Ignacio Francisco de la Cruz Garcia, who was said to be the oldest man in the United States, died here yesterday, aged 117. He was a native of Sinaloa, Mex., but came here when he was 35 years of age. His age has been questioned, but he had documents which sustained his claim.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

The Crime of a Morose Farmer in Ray County, Mo.

HE WIPES OUT FIVE HUMAN LIVES.

His Wife, His Mother-in-Law, a Step-Daughter and a Step-Brother Shot to Death and the Murderer Then Suicides.

RICHMOND, Mo., March 22.—A terrible tragedy was enacted Saturday evening near the little village of Orrick in Ray county, Mo. Bee Rainwater, a farmer of morose and jealous disposition, cruelly murdered his wife, his mother-in-law, one of his wife's children by a former marriage and a step-brother and then made a good ending of his awful work by blowing out his own brains. The dead are: Bee Rainwater, the murderer and suicide; Mrs. Bee Rainwater; Mrs. William Artman, Mrs. Rainwater's mother; John Thurman, son of Mrs. Artman and step-brother of the murderer, and Fanny Gentry, the murderer's step-daughter.

The Rainwaters and the Artmans live within a quarter of a mile of each other near the bank of the Missouri river, about three miles south of Orrick. Last week Mrs. Artman became ill and sent for her daughter, Mrs. Rainwater, to come and stay with her. Saturday night Rainwater went over from his place to the Artman house to visit his wife and children. He greeted them affectionately, his manner giving them no idea of his murderous mood. After he had been in the house a little while, he proposed to Johnny Thurman, his wife's brother, that they go to church. They went and were absent about an hour, when they returned. Rainwater was annoyed by some dogs barking in the orchard and said to Thurman: "Johnny, let's kill those dogs."

Thurman took a shotgun and Rainwater a revolver and they left the house. When they had gone about 50 yards Rainwater, without having said a word, stepped behind Thurman and placing the revolver to his head sent a bullet crashing through his brain. Maddened by this first taste of blood, Rainwater hurried back to the house where his unsuspecting victims were all in bed. In one bed were Mr. Artman and his wife; in another bed in the same room Mrs. Rainwater, Fannie Gentry and a ten-year-old daughter of Mrs. Artman. Rainwater had brought back the gun which Thurman had taken out and this he leveled at Mrs. Artman's head, saying: "I've got you all now." Mrs. Artman threw up her hands as Rainwater fired, the charge of shot carrying off every one of her fingers and the right side of her head; turning around, he literally blew his wife's head off with the other barrel of his gun, scattering her brains over the wall.

Drawing a revolver from his pocket, he fired twice at Fannie Gentry, one bullet penetrating her brain and one piercing through her lungs. For some unaccountable reason he spared Mr. Artman and the younger Artman girl. Walking into the front room of the house the murderer coolly reloaded both barrels of his gun and went out into the orchard again. Here he met Thurman, still alive, and crawling toward the house. He fired two more shots into Thurman's brain, and then going a few feet further, he leaned against the fence of the orchard and, placing the muzzle of the gun against his head, blew out his own brains.

William Artman, father-in-law of the murderer, was in bed with his wife when the first shot was fired, and got up. He says when Rainwater came into the room he knew something awful had happened, and his son-in-law told him not to be afraid, as he had nothing against him. Further than this, the old man says: "It was all done so quickly that I could hardly realize what was happening." As soon as he recovered from the awful shock he ran to his nearest neighbors and gave the alarm. An inquest was held yesterday morning and a verdict rendered in accordance with the above facts.

A Long Overdue Ship.

NEW YORK, March 22.—The long overdue American clipper ship T. F. Oakes, which left Hong Kong on July 4, 1896 days ago, with a general cargo for this port, and which had been given up as lost, was towed into port yesterday by the British tank steamer Kasbek, Capt. Muir, who picked her up last Thursday in latitude 38.10, longitude 68.44. The crew were sick with scurvy and six had died.

Serious Blaze at Ottumwa, Ia.

OTTUMWA, Ia., March 22.—A disastrous fire of an unknown origin broke out here yesterday in a brick business block owned by the Seth Richards estate, and in a few hours had destroyed property valued at \$180,000. At this hour the situation is extremely critical, the flames being propelled by a heavy gale.

Mr. Vest has introduced in the senate bills fixing the salaries of United States marshals and county clerks in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and the Indian territory.

Albert Ribbing, aged 25, a coachman, fell from the second floor of the Bunker building in Kansas City, Mo., and was instantly killed. He was intoxicated.

HORRIBLE CRIME AVENGED.

Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling Executed for the Murder of Pearl Bryan.

NEWPORT, Ky., March 22.—Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling, dental students of Cincinnati, convicted of the murder of Pearl Bryan, were hanged together on a double trap in an enclosure in the jail yard here at 11:41½ o'clock Saturday. The condemned men spent a quiet but restless night and were up at 5:30 o'clock, ate heartily and indulged in cigars and had a good time. At 9:15 o'clock it was announced that Jackson had made a complete confession and Gov. Bradley was telegraphed to in the interest of Walling. Jackson declared that Walling was not guilty of murder.

Jackson was given five minutes to make a statement and to tell how and by whom the crime was committed, and to specify to what extent Walling was blameless. At the end of five minutes Jackson stated that he could not swear that Walling was innocent. This settled the fate of both prisoners and in a few minutes the march to the scaffold was begun.

Just before leaving the cell Walling said: "I will tell you now at the last moment of my life that I was not there and am innocent of the whole crime. Jackson has said as much, but it seems it will not save me. I cannot say any more. I will say no more on the scaffold."

Story of the Case.

A soldier from Fort Thomas, Ky., while crossing a field in the vicinity of the post on the morning of February 1, 1896, found the headless body of a young woman behind some brush. The condition of the body showed that the woman had passed through a struggle before being murdered, her corset having been nearly torn from her body and the palm of her right hand bearing deep cuts, where she had evidently tried to hold the knife of her murderer.

January 28, 1896, it was found Miss Bryan had left her country home ostensibly for a visit at Indianapolis, but had gone direct to Cincinnati. When the parents arrived in answer to the advice from the police, they recognized the clothing and body as that of their daughter. The girl's parents had seen many letters addressed to Scott Jackson, Cincinnati, and told the police of his attention to the girl and they arrested him 12 hours after the body was identified. Jackson made a confession in which he implicated Alonzo Walling, his roommate, and a third person, whose name he would not give, but intimated that it was William Wood, of Greencastle.

The inquest was held February 11 at Newport, Ky. On both sides of the river the people were wild with excitement and as the testimony developed they were open in their threats of lynching should the prisoners not be given death sentences. Jackson identified the blood-stained coat as his own, but said that Walling had worn it, and when Walling's razor was shown he claimed that Jackson had taken it. These articles, with some of Pearl Bryan's clothing, had been found in a sewer.

A physician swore that Jackson had told him that he had betrayed Pearl Bryan, and others testified that there was no poison in the girl's stomach. Jackson's defense was very weak and the principal effort seemed to be to show that Pearl Bryan was killed in Cincinnati and then taken to Kentucky and decapitated. This, if successful, would have saved the prisoner, as he could not be tried for the same offense in Cincinnati.

TO AID AGRICULTURE.

The McKinley Administration Will Do All It Can to Help Farmers.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Col. J. H. Brigham, the new assistant secretary of agriculture, expressed the opinion to-day that the agricultural outlook was very hopeful and that the president and congress and the department would thoroughly co-operate in the interests of the farmers. He said:

The administration will in every way possible encourage the diversification of crops and make a determined effort to secure the growing in the United States of everything needed here which it is possible to raise. We are now buying large quantities of sugar, wool, eggs, hides, beans, barley, potatoes and other products, while all these things are almost everything that we need for ourselves and should be grown here. There is too much of overproduction of corn and other products. If the farmers enter on this policy of diversification they will reduce their unprofitable big areas and products and so avoid a surplus to bear down the market, and then they will get more for their cereals, etc., than they get now. If this year's crop were only one-half of what it is there would be much more money for the farmers.

WOULD BUY CUBA.

Insurgents Willing to Pay \$100,000,000 for Their Freedom—Want Uncle Sam's Assistance.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The plan of President Cisneros and Gen. Maximo Gomez to purchase the freedom of the island of Cuba is being followed up by the Cuban representatives in this country. It is learned on good authority that the recent visit to this city of Estrada Palma, the Cuban delegate to the United States, was for the purpose of pressing the purchase idea. His plan is said to be to obtain the introduction and passage through congress of a joint resolution setting forth the willingness of the Cuban patriots to buy their independence by assuming the present war debt and the deficit existing since the termination of the ten years' war, and urging the executive department of this government to use its good offices to secure from Spain the acceptance of this offer, so favorable to this country. The suggestion is that if the congress of the United States should adopt such a resolution it would be a sufficient incentive to induce the president to bring the proposition before Spain as that favored by the people of the United States. The amount of the debt which the Cubans should assume is about \$100,000,000.

The Blockade in Force.

CANEA, Crete, March 22.—The situation of Crete may be described as one of expectancy. Yesterday the fact that the blockade had formally begun was generally communicated from Canea to all points in the island in the telegraphic circuit. Pillaging still continues.

FITZ IS CHAMPION.

He Gives Corbett a Heart Blow in the Fourteenth Round.

The Contest Was a Great One and the Best Man Won—Corbett Had the Best of the Fight Until the Last Round.

CARSON, Nev., March 18.—Robert Fitzsimmons is the champion pugilist of the world. He has claimed the title for over a year, but yesterday he demonstrated his right to it in a fair fight. He met his one great rival, James J. Corbett, in the squared circle, and in the 14th round he "knocked him out." It was a gallant battle, and the best man won. The victory was not gained without a struggle. In fact, victory did not seem possible for Fitzsimmons until the last moment of the battle. Many had thought he was slowly going to pieces, but when the opportunity came he had been watching for the end of the fight came almost in a single blow.

When Corbett finally arose with the assistance of his attendants and recovered sufficiently from his dazed condition to realize the calamity that had



ROBERT FITZSIMMONS, Champion Pugilist of the World.

befallen him, he broke out with all the fury of an enraged animal and, discarding all the rules which govern the art of which he is a disciple, rushed at his victorious opponent and made a vain struggle to beat him over the ropes, only desisting when his own seconds and friends forced him away. Corbett afterwards broke away and rushed at Fitzsimmons a second time, but this time instead of attempting to renew the fight, he implored his victor to give him another chance, and to accept another challenge from him. This was refused, and warm words followed. Fitzsimmons was borne away with all the glory of his new won victory, and Corbett left to return to his home in San Francisco, carrying with him the despair of defeat.

It was a great contest, but notwithstanding the cheers for the victor, the majority of those who witnessed it could not but feel a sense of disappointment at the result, believing as they did that victory was taken from Corbett at a moment when he seemed sure of gaining it himself.

It was a moment after the noon hour when the principals and their seconds appeared, and both were greeted with great cheers. George Siler, the referee, arranged the few preliminary matters in a short time and about 12:10 the battle commenced.

For five rounds the battle continued without much gain for either side. Corbett landed oftener than his opponent, but when Fitz got in his terrible right on the head or body it counted heavily. In the fifth Corbett landed a staggering blow on the mouth, which cut Fitz's lip open and started his mouth to bleeding badly. The blood which was soon spattered over the bare breasts and shoulders of the men inflamed the crowd to the highest pitch of excitement. Fitz was on his knees and stayed there for eight seconds. Fitz apparently realized that his only show was at close quarters, for he kept boring in and finally he caught Corbett under the chin with a left in the ninth and there was a roar from the crowd. In the tenth when Fitz got in a right on the body and a left on the jaw there were shrieks of delight as the round ended. Up to the end of the tenth round Corbett had not received a mark of any consequence, but in this round Fitz seemed the stronger of the two and he was fighting like a demon. In the 14th the end came with startling suddenness. The blow that did the business was a left hand blow over the heart. Jim staggered and Fitz struck him right on the jaw. Jim sank to his knees, clinging to the ropes. His face was contorted with pain and he could not breathe. He tried in vain to rise but each time he sank back in agony with his hands over his heart. Slowly Siler counted the fatal seconds and when he raised his hand at the tenth second a roar went up from the crowd. Bob stood overlooking his fallen rival, waiting to administer the finishing blow if Jim got up, but his caution was unnecessary. Jim's seconds rushed into the ring and hustled him to his corner. Corbett revived and when he learned he had lost the fight had become frantic. He broke away from his seconds and rushed about hunting for Fitzsimmons and striking blindly right and left. It was a pitiful exhibition of impotent rage. His seconds tried in vain to control him, but he struck viciously at them as well as at others. Finally they grabbed him by the arms and carried him by force from the ring.